

Opportunity to Comment  
Cuckoo Vegetation Management Project  
American River Ranger District, Tahoe National  
Forest, Placer County, CA

The Forest Service is initiating public scoping to address the need to reduce vegetative fuels and hazards, improve wildlife habitat and improve forest health and resilience in the proposed Cuckoo Vegetation Management Project area in Placer County, California on the American River Ranger District, Tahoe National Forest (TNF). The Cuckoo Vegetation Management Project is on National Forest System lands in an area susceptible to wildfires. The Project encompasses approximately 4,535 acres of vegetation management on a large ridge-top area that separates the North Fork of the Middle Fork and Middle Fork of the American Rivers 11 miles east of Foresthill, CA.

Specific management actions being proposed on National Forest System (NFS) lands within the project area include: ground-based thinning on 2,528 acres of conifers using follow-up fuel treatments; cable thinning and follow-up fuels on 361 acres; precommercial thinning on 690 acres; treating up to 26 acres of rust-resistant sugar pines; fuel reduction (a combination of manual, mechanical and prescribed fire treatments) on 1,291 acres; removing intermittent hazard trees on 56 miles of roads; creating fuel break zones along 31 miles of primary access roads and dominant ridges. Roadside hazard tree removal and the fuel breaks partially overlap the proposed vegetation and fuel treatment areas; however, it should be noted that these activities will be limited in scope and intensity and should not be considered a continuous treatment of all acres identified. Approximately 2.3 miles of the Western States Trail are proposed to be rerouted and 0.35 miles of non-system roads are proposed for decommissioning.

Cuckoo Vegetation Management Project information, including detailed maps, is available on the Tahoe National Forest website for review at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/tahoe/land-management/projects>. Paper copies of the documents are also available upon request from the project contact listed below. If you would like to comment, please submit your comments within 30 days after publication of the scoping legal notice in The Union newspaper for the Cuckoo Vegetation Management Project. The Forest Service takes scoping comments into consideration to help identify issues while preparing a Decision Memo, expected by January 2022. If you have information you believe the Forest Service may not be aware of or have issues (points of dispute, debate or disagreement) regarding potential effects of the proposed action, please submit written comments either electronically or by mail to: Mary Grim, District Ranger, C/O Karen Walden, American River Ranger District, 22830 Foresthill Road, Foresthill, California, 95631. The office business hours for hand-delivered written comments are 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf) or Word (.doc) to [comments-pacificsouthwest-tahoe-american-river@usda.gov](mailto:comments-pacificsouthwest-tahoe-american-river@usda.gov) with subject line "Cuckoo." For additional information concerning the proposed action, please contact Kelly Pavlica, Silviculturist, on the American River Ranger District at (530) 367-2224 ext. 248.

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